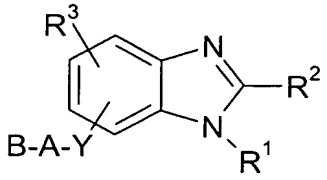
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to formula I



(I)

or a physiologically compatible salt thereof,

in which

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S ~~or~~ and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or is substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I,

$C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$,

$C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$,

XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,

$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,

XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH,

$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$,

XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4,

SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,

NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$,

$XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$,

$XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way~~

~~that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-10} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S ~~or~~ and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or is subsituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I,
XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,
$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,
XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH,
$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$,
XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,
NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediyl-bisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 means one or two substituents which are independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen,
F, Cl, Br, I,
XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,
$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,
XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH,
$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4,
$SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,
NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$,
$XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$,

$XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, ~~or~~ and R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3, ~~if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, C_{1-3} alkyl-5 to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and ~~or~~ O, ~~atoms~~, C_{6-10} aryl or 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O ~~atoms~~, wherein aryl and heteroaryl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy group or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, and wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member, and wherein a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N and/or O ring member, and wherein one or two ring members which are each ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl~~,~~;

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members which are each N or O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{6-10} aryl or 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S, and O,

~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned alkyl, alkenyl and alkinyl groups ~~chains can be~~ are optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls, aryls or heteroaryls,

~~whereby~~ wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, C_2F_5, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl), COOH,

$CONH_2$, and COO C_{1-3} alkyl, and all previously mentioned aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, or

R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-to 7-membered heterocyclic group, which ~~can~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl~~;~~;

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members which are each N or O, ~~whereby~~ wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

~~whereby~~ wherein in the above-mentioned aliphatic ~~chains~~ groups, a carbon atom or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, and ~~whereby~~ wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from =O, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl$)$~~;~~;

B means COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, or tetrazolyl, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group A,

or the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$~~;~~;

X means a bond, CH_2, $(CH_2)_2$, $CH(CH_3)$, $(CH_2)_3$, $CH(CH_2CH_3)$, $CH(CH_3)CH_2$, or $CH_2CH(CH_3)$, and

Y means O, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or NSO_2R^4,

provided that ~~if~~ Y means NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$ or NSO_2R^4, and either

a) ~~substituent~~ R^2 contains a nitrogen-containing, saturated heterocyclic group, wherein said ~~this~~ heterocyclic group is not substituted in the imine nitrogen with H, methyl, ethyl, propyl or isopropyl,

or

b) ~~in optionally present groups~~ R^2 contains substituents $XNHR^4$ ~~or~~ and/or $XNR^4R^{4'}$ ~~of substituent R^2~~, in which R^4 and/or $R^{4'}$ ~~does~~ are not ~~mean~~ C_{1-4} alkyl,

~~that~~ then B does not mean COOH, SO_3H, PO_3H_2 or tetrazolyl ~~at the same time~~, and R^1 and R^2, independently of one another, mean C_{5-6} heteroaryl or phenyl, ~~if the latter, independently of one another,~~ which are unsubstituted, or are substituted ~~simply~~ with C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, O C_{1-6} alkyl, O C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, COOH, COO C_{1-6} alkyl, CO C_{1-6} alkyl, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^4$, NO_2, NH_2, $NHCOR^4$, $NHSO_2R^4$, or with 1 or 2 halogen atoms selected from ~~the group~~ F, Cl, Br, and I, and

whereby the following compounds are excluded:

[(1,2-Diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]acetic acid methyl ester,

5-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

4-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]butanoic acid ethyl ester,

5-[[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]-pentanoic acid methyl ester,

6-[[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-(4-aminophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[4-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[4-[(acetyl)amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester

5-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

6-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-(3-aminophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[3-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester, and

5-[[1-[3-[(acetyl)amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester.

2. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S ~~or~~ and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,
$XCOR^4$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$,
XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, or R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl or butane-1,4-diyl.

3. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-10} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S ~~or~~ and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br,XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,
$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,
XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH,
$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$,XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,
NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, and R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is one or two substituents, which are, independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4N^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, ~~or~~ and R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two substituents R^3~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl.

5. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, are each CF_3, C_2F_5, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkinyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-6} cycloalkyl), phenyl or 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O ~~atoms~~, wherein the phenyl and heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, and

in a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, a ring member ~~can be~~ is optionally an N or an O atom, and in a 6-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members are optionally ~~can~~ in each case ~~be~~ an N or O atom, ~~whereby~~ wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl.

6. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, are each

C_{1-6} alkyl, ~~whereby~~ wherein a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally ~~exchanged for~~ replaced by O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl~~;~~;

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, ~~whereby~~ wherein in a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, a ring member ~~can be~~ is optionally an N or an O atom, and in a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members ~~can~~ are optionally in each case ~~be~~ an N or O atom, ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned C_{1-6} alkyl ~~part~~ group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls, or

a 5- to 6-membered heteroaromatic compound with 1-2 heteroatoms~~,~~ selected from tN, S ~~or~~ and O,

~~whereby~~ wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl ~~parts~~ groups are~~,~~ optionally~~,~~ substituted with up to two substituents ~~that consist of~~ selected from CF_3, OH, and O C_{1-3} alkyl, and the previously mentioned heteroaryl groups are~~,~~ optionally~~,~~ substituted with one or two substituents ~~that consist of~~ selected from F, Cl, CF_3, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, and OC_2H_5, or

R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic compound, which ~~can~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and is unsubstituted or substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl.

7. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein A is C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), ~~whereby~~ wherein in a 5-membered cycloalkanediyl ring, a ring member ~~can be~~ is optionally an N or an O atom, or in a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members ~~can~~ are optionally in each case ~~be~~ an N or O atom, ~~whereby~~ wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

~~whereby~~ wherein in the alkanediyl, alkenediyl, and alkinediyl groups ~~chains~~, a carbon atom or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally exchanged for O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl.

8. (Previously Presented) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein B means COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$ or tetrazolyl, which in each case is bonded to a carbon atom of group A.

9. (Previously Presented) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein X means a bond or methylene.

10. (Previously Presented) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein Y means O.

11. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:

[(1,2-Diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]acetic acid isopropyl ester

3-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]propanoic acid methyl ester

2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]propanoic acid methyl ester

4-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]butanoic acid isopropyl ester

5-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]pentanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-methoxy-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(phenylmethoxy)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-hydroxy-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

7-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]heptanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[1-(4-cyanophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-cyanophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-[4-(N,N-dimethylamino)phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-[4-(N,N-dimethylamino)phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[1-phenyl-2-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[2-(4-methylphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-methylphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1-phenyl-2-(4-pyridinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1,2-diphenyl-5-[[(3-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1,2-diphenyl-5-[[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1,2-diphenyl-5-[[(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1,2-diphenyl-5-[[[(4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl]sulfonyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-[[[4-(acetylamino)phenyl]sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]-hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-[[bis(3-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[1,2-diphenyl-5-[(propylsulfonyl)amino]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-[(benzylsulfonyl)amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

2-[2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]ethoxy]acetic acid methyl ester

3-[2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]ethoxy]propanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid ethyl ester

6-[[4-acetyl-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-[4-(thiomethyl)phenyl]-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-[(4-(thiomethyl)phenyl]-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3-thienyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3-thienyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

4-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]butanoic acid methyl ester

N-(phenylmethoxy)-6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]-hexanamide

N,N-dimethyl-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-isopropyl-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]-1-pyrrolidin-1-ylhexan-1-one

5-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[4-(acetyloxy)-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[4-hydroxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[4-hydroxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid~~, or~~ and

6-[[7-methyl-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester.

12. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:

6-[[2-Phenyl-1-(3-pyridyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(3-pyridyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-phenyl-1-(4-pyridyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]-hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-bromophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-phenyl-2-(benzothien-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-phenyl-2-(benzothien-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[5-hydroxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-hydroxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[5-methoxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid isopropyl ester

6-[[5-hydroxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-methoxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

4-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]butanoic acid methyl ester

5-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester

5-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonyl]amino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[5-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]methylamino]-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(indan-5-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(indan-5-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid

6-[[1-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-phenyl-2-(3-pyridinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

N-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-isobutoxy-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-6-[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]-hexanamide

N-isobutoxy-6-[2-phenyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(2-methoxyethyl)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(3-methoxypropyl)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-isobutyl-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]-1-morpholin-1-ylhexan-1-one

N,N-di(-2-methoxyethyl)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-isopentyl-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(pyridin-2-yl)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-(pyridin-3-yl)-6-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]hexanamide

N-isopropyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N,N-dimethyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N,N-diethyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-isobutyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-cyclopropyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-cyclobutyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-tert-butyl-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

(R)-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]1-(2-methoxymethyl)-pyrrolidin-1-ylhexan-1-one

N-(3-imidazol-1-yl-propyl)-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-6-[[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanamide

N-(3-methoxypropyl)-6-[[1-(indan-5-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]heptanamide

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(3-pyridyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(4-pyridyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(2-thienyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(3-thienyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[2-(3-indolyl)-1-(4-methylphenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(2-furyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(3-furyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester

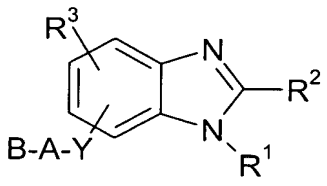
6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(5-methyl-2-thienyl)-1H- benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester ~~or~~ and

6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester.

13. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising combining a compound according to claim 1 with a pharmaceutical vehicle or diluent.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds according to claim 1 and one or more vehicles or diluents.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a patient suffering from ~~a disease associated with microglia activation~~ chronic inflammation comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a benzimidazole compound of formula II



(II)

or a physiologically compatible salt thereof,

in which

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, ~~whereby~~ wherein when said aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can~~ they are optionally ~~be~~ linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic $C_{6\text{-}10}$ aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$,

XNHCONHR^4, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediyl-bisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 stands for one or two substituents which are each independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, XOCOR^4, XOCONHR^4, XOCOOR^4, XCOR^4, XC(NOH)R^4, XC(NOR^4)R$^{4'}$, XC(NO(COR^4))R$^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, XCOOR^4, XCONH$_2$, XCONHR^4, XCONR^{4}R$^{4'}$, XCONHOH, XCONHOR^4, XCOSR^4, XSR^4, XSOR^4, XSO$_2$R^4, SO$_2$NH$_2$, SO$_2$NHR^4, SO$_2$NR^{4}R$^{4'}$, NO$_2$, XNH$_2$, XNHR^4, XNR^{4}R$^{4'}$, XNHSO$_2$R^4, XNR^{4}SO$_2$R$^{4'}$, XN(SO$_2$R^4)(SO$_2$R$^{4'}$), XNHCOR^4, XNHCOOR^4, XNHCONHR^4, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, or 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, ~~or~~ and R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and R$^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl), C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, ~~C_{1-3} alkyl 5 to 10 membered~~ C_{1-3} alkyl-5 to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O ~~atoms~~, C_{6-10} aryl, or 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4

heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O atoms, wherein the C_{6-10} aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy group or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, and wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member, and wherein a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected ~~have~~ from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, mean hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{6-10} aryl or 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S, and O, ~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned alkyl, alkenyl and alkinyl groups ~~chains can be~~ are optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls, aryls or heteroaryls,

~~whereby~~ wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, C_2F_5, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH2, NH C_{1-3} alkyl, NH C_{1-3} alkanoyl, N $(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, N$(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl), COOH, $CONH_2$, and COO C_{1-3} alkyl, and all previously mentioned aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3,

C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5 or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy, or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, or

R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-to 7-membered group, which ~~can~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl,

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), (C_{0-5} alkanediylarylene-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-heteroarylene-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein the aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5,

wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

wherein in the mentioned aliphatic groups ~~chains~~, one or two carbon atoms ~~can~~ are each optionally ~~be~~ replaced by ~~for~~ O, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or NSO_2R^4,

and wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from F, OH, OR^4, $OCOR^4$, =O, NH_2, $NR^4R^{4'}$, $NHCOR^4$, $NHCOOR^4$, $NHCONHR^4$, $NHSO_2R^4$ SH, and SR^4,

B means hydrogen, OH, $OCOR^5$, $OCONHR^5$, $OCOOR^5$, COR^5, $C(NOH)R^5$, $C(NOR^5)R^{5'}$, $C(NO(COR^5))R^{5'}$, COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, or tetrazolyl, ~~respectively~~ each bonded to a carbon atom of group A,

or the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$,

X means a bond, CH_2, $(CH_2)_2$, $CH(CH_3)$, $(CH_2)_3$, $CH(CH_2CH_3)$, $CH(CH_3)CH_2$, or $CH_2CH(CH_3)$, and

Y means a bond, O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or ~~NSO_2R^4.~~ NSO_2R^4.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, XCN, COOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, ~~and~~ or R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein,

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, wherein said aryl group or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, or R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl or, butane-1,4-diyl.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^3 stands for one or two substituents, which independently of one another, each mean:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, or R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl or, butane-1,4-diyl.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean CF_3, C_2F_5, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkinyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-6} cycloalkyl), C_{1-3} alkylaryl, C_{1-3} alkylheteroaryl, monocyclic aryl or 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~

and O ~~atoms~~, wherein ~~said~~ the aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, and ~~in addition~~ wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, ~~can be~~ are optionally C_{1-6} alkyl wherein a carbon atom ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl, wherein the mentioned C_{1-6} alkyl ~~part can~~ group is optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls or ~~else~~ a 5- to 6-membered heteroaromatic group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O,

wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl ~~parts~~ groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, OH, and O C_{1-3} alkyl, and the previously mentioned heteroaryl groups ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, CF_3, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, and OC_2H_5,

or R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic group which optionally contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-heteroarylene-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), wherein ~~if~~ when a heteroaryl group is present it is optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, and ~~in addition~~ wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring

members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

wherein in aliphatic ~~chains~~ groups one or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, or NSO_2 C_{1-3} alkyl, and ~~whereby~~ wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl groups ~~parts can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two F atoms or by one of the substituents selected from OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, O C_{1-3} alkanoyl, =O, NH_2, NH C_{1-3} alkyl, N $(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, NH C_{1-3} alkanoyl, N (C_{1-3} alkyl) (C_{1-3} alkanoyl), NHCOO C_{1-3} alkyl, NHCONH C_{1-3} alkyl, $NHSO_2$ C_{1-3} alkyl, SH, and S C_{1-3} alkyl.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein

B means hydrogen, OH, $OCOR^5$, $OCONHR^5$, $OCOOR^5$, COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, or

tetrazolyl, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group A.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein

X means a bond or CH_2.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein

Y means a bond, O, S, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$ or NSO_2R^4.

25. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is 6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimdazol-6-yl]oxy] hexanoic isopropyl ester.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said compound is 6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimdazol-6-yl]oxy] hexanoic isopropyl ester.

27. (Currently Amended) A benzimdazole compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~

N, S ~~or~~ and O, ~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $CONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, or R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of ~~said~~ the substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-10} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from ~~the group that consists of~~ N, S ~~or~~ and O, ~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned-aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, ~~and~~ or R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of ~~said~~ the substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 is one or two substituents, which are each, independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4N^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, ~~or~~ and R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two substituents R^3~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form ~~can be~~ methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, are each CF_3, C_2F_5, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl,

C_{2-4} alkinyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-6} cycloalkyl), phenyl or 5- to 6- membered heteroaryl with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O atoms, wherein said phenyl and heteroaryl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, and

wherein in a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, a ring member ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ an N or an O atom, and in a 6-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members ~~can~~ in each case optionally ~~be~~ are an N or O atom, ~~whereby~~ wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted by C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl;

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, are each

C_{1-6} alkyl, ~~whereby~~ wherein a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally exchanged for O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein in a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, a ring member ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ an N or an O atom, and in a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members ~~can~~ is in each case optionally ~~be~~ N or O atom, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted by C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl, or

a 5- to 6-membered heteroaromatic compound with 1-2 heteroatoms select from N, S ~~or~~ and O, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, CF_3, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, and OC_2H_5, or

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, together with the nitrogen atom, form a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic group which ~~can~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl;

A is C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein in a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, a ring member ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ an N or an O atom, or in a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring, one or two ring members ~~can~~ are in each case optionally ~~be~~ N or O atom, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted by C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

wherein in the alkanediyl, alkenediyl, and alkinediyl groups ~~chains~~ a carbon atom or two carbon atoms ~~can~~ are optionally each ~~be~~ replaced by O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl;

B is COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$ or tetrazolyl, which in each case is bonded to a carbon atom of group A;

X is a bond or methylene; and

Y is O.

28. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, indane, fluorenyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, thienoimidazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, purinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinaxolinyl, cinnolinyl, naphthyridinyl or pteridinyl, which in each case is unsubstituted or substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$

XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 is phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, indane, fluorenyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, thienoimidazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, purinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinaxolinyl, cinnolinyl, naphthyridinyl or pteridinyl, which in each case is unsubstituted or subsituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $C(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediyl-bisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, C_{1-3} alkyl-5 to 10-membered heteroaryl with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O ~~atoms~~, or

phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, indane, fluorenyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl,

pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, thienoimidazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, purinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinaxolinyl, cinnolinyl, naphthyridinyl or pteridinyl, which in each case is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy group or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, and

wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member, and wherein a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has N and/or O ring members, and wherein one or two ring members which are each ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl; and

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring, ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has an N or O ring member and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members which are each N and/or O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, indane, fluorenyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, thienoimidazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, purinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinaxolinyl, cinnolinyl, naphthyridinyl or pteridinyl,

~~whereby~~ wherein the mentioned alkyl, alkenyl and alkinyl groups ~~chains can be~~ are optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls, aryls or heteroaryls,

~~whereby~~ wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, C_2F_5, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH2, NH C_{1-3} alkyl, NH C_{1-3} alkanoyl, N (C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$, N(C_{1-3} alkyl)(C_{1-3} alkanoyl), COOH, $CONH_2$, and COO C_{1-3} alkyl, and all previously mentioned aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group,

or R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-to 7-membered heterocyclic group, which ~~can~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from the group ~~that consists of~~ N, S and O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, XCN, COOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, wherein said aryl group or heteroaryl group ~~can be~~ is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, ~~or~~ and R^4,

~~whereby~~ wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl or heteroaryl group~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl or, butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 is one or two substituents, which independently of one another, each mean: hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, or R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3~~, if they~~ are in ortho-position to one another, ~~can be~~ they are optionally linked to one another ~~in such a way that they~~ to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or~~,~~ butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean CF_3, C_2F_5, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkinyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-6} cycloalkyl), C_{1-3} alkylaryl, C_{1-3} alkylheteroaryl, monocyclic aryl or 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S ~~or~~ and O ~~atoms~~, wherein ~~said~~ the aryl and heteroaryl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5 or ~~else can~~ optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group, and ~~in addition~~ wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl;

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, ~~can be~~ are C_{1-6} alkyl wherein a carbon atom ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl, wherein the mentioned C_{1-6} alkyl ~~part~~ group ~~can~~ is optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls or ~~else~~ a 5- to 6-membered heteroaromatic group with 1-2 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O,

wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl ~~parts~~ groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, OH, and O C_{1-3} alkyl, and the previously mentioned heteroaryl groups ~~can~~ are optionally ~~be~~ substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, CF_3, CH_3, C_2H_5, OCH_3, and OC_2H_5, or

R^5 and $R^{5'}$ together with the nitrogen atom form a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic group which optionally contains another oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atom and is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-C_{0-2} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy-carbonyl, aminocarbonyl or phenyl;

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-heteroarylene-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), wherein ~~if~~ when a heteroaryl group is present it is optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, and ~~in addition~~ wherein a 5-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has a ring member selected from N and O, and a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl ring ~~can~~ optionally ~~have~~ has one or two ring members selected from N and O, wherein ring nitrogens optionally ~~can be~~ are substituted with C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

wherein in aliphatic groups ~~chains~~ one or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, or NSO_2 C_{1-3} alkyl, and ~~whereby~~ wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl ~~parts~~ groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two F atoms or by one of the substituents selected from OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, O C_{1-3} alkanoyl, =O, NH_2, NH C_{1-3} alkyl, N (C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$, NH C_{1-3} alkanoyl, N (C_{1-3} alkyl) (C_{1-3} alkanoyl), NHCOO C_{1-3} alkyl, NHCONH C_{1-3} alkyl, $NHSO_2$ C_{1-3} alkyl, SH, and S C_{1-3} alkyl;

B means hydrogen, OH, $OCOR^5$, $OCONHR^5$, $OCOOR^5$, COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, or tetrazolyl, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group A;

X means a bond or CH_2; and

Y means a bond, O, S, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$ or NSO_2R^4.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein in R^1, R^2, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^5 and $R^{5'}$, said aryl groups are substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, indane, or fluorenyl, and said heteroaryl group are substituted or unsubstituted pyrrolyl,

thienyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, thienoimidazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, indazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, purinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinaxolinyl, cinnolinyl, naphthyridinyl or pteridinyl.

31. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group which is unsubstituted or is substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5- dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4;

R^2 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-10} aryl group which is unsubstituted or is subsituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4;

R^3 is one or two substituents which are independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, ~~or~~ and R^4;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, are each C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, or C_{6-10} aryl, wherein aryl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5,

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, are each

C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom ~~can be~~ ~~are~~ is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, or

C_{6-10} aryl;

A is C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein in the alkanediyl, alkenediyl, and alkinediyl groups ~~chains~~, a carbon atom or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally replaced by O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl, and wherein alkanediyl and cycloalkanediyl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from =O, OH, OC_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl); and

B is COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, or $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group **A**, or

the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein

R^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group which is unsubstituted or is substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4;

R^2 is a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-10} aryl group which is unsubstituted or is subsituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4;

R^3 is one or two substituents which are independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$,

$XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, ~~or~~ and R^4;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, are each C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, or C_{6-10} aryl, wherein aryl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5,

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, are each

C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom ~~can be~~ is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, or

C_{6-10} aryl;

A is C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein in the alkanediyl, alkenediyl, and alkinediyl groups ~~chains~~, a carbon atom or two carbon atoms ~~can be~~ are optionally replaced by O, NH, NC_{1-3} alkyl, or NC_{1-3} alkanoyl, and wherein alkanediyl and cycloalkanediyl groups ~~can be~~ are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from =O, OH, OC_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl); and

B is COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, or $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group A, or

the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein said patient is suffering from ~~AIDS dementia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, Down's syndrome, diffuse Lewy body's disease, Huntington's disease, leukoencephalopathy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Pick's disease, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, temporary lobe epilepsy or tumors~~. neuro inflammation.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said patient is suffering from a stroke.

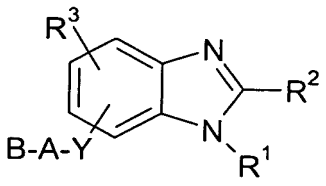
35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said compound is 6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimdazol-6-yl]oxy] hexanoic isopropyl ester.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said compound is 6-[[1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimdazol-6-yl]oxy] hexanoic isopropyl ester.

37. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein said patient is suffering from neurohal dysfunction or degeneration.

38. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein said patient is suffering from neurohal Alzheimer's disease.

39. (New) A benzimdazole compound according to formula I



(I)

or a physiologically compatible salt thereof,

in which

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group, wherein said aryl is unsubstituted or is substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I,

$C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$,

$C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$,

XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,

$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,

XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH,

$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$,

XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4,

SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,

NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$,

$XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$,

$XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl group are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic $C_{6\text{-}10}$ aryl group, wherein said aryl is unsubstituted or is subsituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I,

XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,

$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,

XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH,

$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$,

XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,

NO_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl group are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediyl-bisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 means one or two substituents which are independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen,

F, Cl, Br, I,

XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$,

$XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$,

XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH,

$XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4,

$SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$,

NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$,

$XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$,

$XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3 are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, or C_{6-10} aryl, wherein aryl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy group or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group,

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, or

C_{6-10} aryl, wherein the mentioned alkyl, alkenyl and alkinyl groups are optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls, or aryls,

wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, C_2F_5, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl), COOH, $CONH_2$, and COO C_{1-3} alkyl, and all previously mentioned aryl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group,

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, or (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein in the above-mentioned aliphatic groups, a carbon atom or two carbon atoms are optionally replaced by O, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl, N C_{1-3} alkanoyl, and wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from =O, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH_2, NHC_{1-3} alkyl, NHC_{1-3} alkanoyl, $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$, and $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)(C_{1-3}$ alkanoyl),

B means COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, or tetrazolyl, in each case bonded to a carbon atom of group A,

or the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$;

X means a bond, CH_2, $(CH_2)_2$, $CH(CH_3)$, $(CH_2)_3$, $CH(CH_2CH_3)$, $CH(CH_3)CH_2$, or $CH_2CH(CH_3)$, and

Y means O, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or NSO_2R^4,

provided that Y means NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$ or NSO_2R^4, and

R^2 contains substituents $XNHR^4$ and/or $XNR^4R^{4'}$, in which R^4 and/or $R^{4'}$ are not C_{1-4} alkyl,

then B does not mean COOH, SO_3H, PO_3H_2 or tetrazolyl, and R^1 and R^2 are phenyl, which is unsubstituted, or is substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, O C_{1-6} alkyl, O C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, COOH, COO C_{1-6} alkyl, CO C_{1-6} alkyl, $CONH_2$, $CONHR^4$, NO_2, NH_2, $NHCOR^4$, $NHSO_2R^4$, or with 1 or 2 halogen atoms selected from F, Cl, Br, and I, and

whereby the following compounds are excluded:

[(1,2-Diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]acetic acid methyl ester,

5-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

4-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl)oxy]butanoic acid ethyl ester,

5-[[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]-pentanoic acid methyl ester,

6-[[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-(4-aminophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[4-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[4-[(acetyl)amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester

5-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

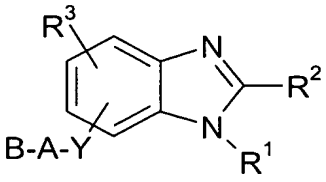
6-[[1-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]hexanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-(3-aminophenyl)-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester,

5-[[1-[3-[[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester, and

5-[[1-[3-[(acetyl)amino]phenyl]-2-phenyl-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]oxy]pentanoic acid methyl ester.

40. (New) A method for treating a patient suffering from a disease associated with microglia activation comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a benzimidazole compound of formula II



(II)

or a physiologically compatible salt thereof,

in which

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group, wherein when said aryl group is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl group are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^2 means a monocyclic or bicyclic $C_{6\text{-}10}$ aryl group, wherein said aryl group is optionally substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another selected from:

F, Cl, Br, I, $C(NH)NH_2$, $C(NH)NHR^4$, $C(NH)NR^4R^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NH_2$, $C(NR^4)NHR^{4'}$, $C(NR^4)NR^4R^{4'}$, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, $XCONHR^4$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two of said substituents for the aryl group are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediyl-bisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^3 stands for one or two substituents which are each independently of one another selected from:

hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, XOH, XOR^4, $XOCOR^4$, $XOCONHR^4$, $XOCOOR^4$, $XCOR^4$, $XC(NOH)R^4$, $XC(NOR^4)R^{4'}$, $XC(NO(COR^4))R^{4'}$, XCN, XCOOH, $XCOOR^4$, $XCONH_2$, $XCONHR^4$, $XCONR^4R^{4'}$, XCONHOH, $XCONHOR^4$, $XCOSR^4$, XSR^4, $XSOR^4$, XSO_2R^4, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^4, $SO_2NR^4R^{4'}$, NO_2, XNH_2, $XNHR^4$, $XNR^4R^{4'}$, $XNHSO_2R^4$, $XNR^4SO_2R^{4'}$, $XN(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$, $XNHCOR^4$, $XNHCOOR^4$, $XNHCONHR^4$, tetrahydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, or 2,5-dihydro-2,5-dioxopyrrol-1-yl, 2,7-dihydro-2,7-dioxoisoindol-1-yl, and R^4,

wherein when two substituents R^3 are in ortho-position to one another, they are optionally linked to one another to jointly form methanediylbisoxy, ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy, propane-1,3-diyl, or butane-1,4-diyl;

R^4 and $R^{4'}$, independently of one another, mean C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, (C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkyl), C_{1-3} alkyl-C_{6-10} aryl, or C_{6-10} aryl, wherein the C_{6-10} aryl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5, or optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy group or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group,

R^5 and $R^{5'}$, independently of one another, mean hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkinyl, wherein in each case a carbon atom is optionally replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, N C_{1-3} alkyl or N C_{1-3} alkanoyl,

C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-C_{0-3} alkyl, or

C_{6-10} aryl,

wherein the mentioned alkyl, alkenyl and alkinyl groups are optionally substituted with one of the previously mentioned cycloalkyls or aryls,

wherein all previously mentioned alkyl and cycloalkyl radicals are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from CF_3, C_2F_5, OH, O C_{1-3} alkyl, NH2, NH C_{1-3} alkyl, NH C_{1-3} alkanoyl, N (C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$, N(C_{1-3} alkyl)(C_{1-3} alkanoyl), COOH, $CONH_2$, and COO C_{1-3} alkyl, and all previously mentioned aryl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5 or optionally carry an annelated methanediylbisoxy, or ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy group,

A means C_{1-10} alkanediyl, C_{2-10} alkenediyl, C_{2-10} alkinediyl, (C_{0-5} alkanediyl-C_{3-7} cycloalkanediyl-C_{0-5} alkanediyl), or (C_{0-5} alkanediylarylene-C_{0-5} alkanediyl),

wherein the aryl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CH_3, C_2H_5, NO_2, OCH_3, OC_2H_5, CF_3, and C_2F_5,

wherein in the mentioned aliphatic groups, one or two carbon atoms are each optionally replaced by O, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or NSO_2R^4,

and wherein alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from F, OH, OR^4, $OCOR^4$, =O, NH_2, $NR^4R^{4'}$, $NHCOR^4$, $NHCOOR^4$, $NHCONHR^4$, $NHSO_2R^4$ SH, and SR^4,

B means hydrogen, OH, $OCOR^5$, $OCONHR^5$, $OCOOR^5$, COR^5, $C(NOH)R^5$, $C(NOR^5)R^{5'}$, $C(NO(COR^5))R^{5'}$, COOH, $COOR^5$, $CONH_2$, $CONHNH_2$, $CONHR^5$, $CONR^5R^{5'}$, CONHOH, $CONHOR^5$, SO_3H, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^5, $SO_2NR^5R^{5'}$, PO_3H, $PO(OH)(OR^5)$, $PO(OR^5)(OR^{5'})$, $PO(OH)(NHR^5)$, $PO(NHR^5)(NHR^{5'})$, or tetrazolyl, each bonded to a carbon atom of group A,

or the entire group Y-A-B is $N(SO_2R^4)(SO_2R^{4'})$ or $NHSO_2R^4$,

X means a bond, CH_2, $(CH_2)_2$, $CH(CH_3)$, $(CH_2)_3$, $CH(CH_2CH_3)$, $CH(CH_3)CH_2$, or $CH_2CH(CH_3)$, and

Y means a bond, O, S, SO, SO_2, NH, NR^4, $NCOR^4$, or NSO_2R^4.

41. (New) A benzimdazole compound according to formula I of claim 1, wherein all heterocyclic groups are selected from pyridinyl, pyridyl, thienyl, imidazol, indonyl, furyl, pyrrolidin, morpholin, piperidin, and piperazine.

42. (New) A method for treating a patient suffering from a disease associated with microglia activation according to claim 15, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a benzimidazole compound of formula II wherein all heterocyclic groups are selected from pyridinyl, pyridyl, thienyl, imidazol, indonyl, furyl, pyrrolidin, morpholin, piperidin, and piperazine.